

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph [0057], on page 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

**[0057]** Specific hardware implementations of virtual routers are discussed in copending, commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application No. 10/085,031 [~~Attorney Docket No. ASH-01-003~~], filed March 1, 2003 and entitled, "Systems And Methods For Implementing a Virtual Router," the contents of which are incorporated in their entirety herein.